## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of: Examiner: Ann M. Schillinger

Helmut D. LINK Group Art Unit: 3774

Serial No.: 10/552,707 Confirmation No.: 6815

Filing Date: October 7, 2005

For: PROSTHETIC INTERVERTEBRAL

JOINT FOR THE CERVICAL SPINE (as

amended)

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.114

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Action dated January 22, 2009, and concurrently with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination, please amend this application as follows.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 4.